

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Ricci, et al EXAMINER: Blanco  
SERIAL NO.: 09/784,284 ART UNIT: 3738  
FOR: Orthopedic Implants having  
Microgrooved Ordered Surface Patterns  
FILING DATE: 02/16/01

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1,136(a)

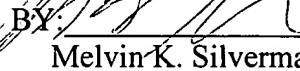
Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant has previously requested a two-month extension of time to respond to the Official Action and Final Rejection of January 2, 2003. Applicant is a Small Entity under 37 C.F.R. 1.27.

Applicants hereby request a third month extension of time, so that a Notice of Appeal may be timely filed. The incremental fee therefore of \$260.00 should be charged to Deposit Account No. 502,557.

Respectfully submitted,  
JOHN L. RICCI, et al

BY:   
Melvin K. Silverman  
Reg. No. 26,234

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